GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1352
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
SURVEY ON FARMER PROFILE
Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has conducted any survey to a assess the age and gender profile of farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether youths are attracting to farming;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and steps taken to attract youth to agriculture;

(e) whether the Government proposes to set up farm schools and extend support to States to establish the same;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government proposes to introduce awards to motivate farmers for their achievements; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b) : The Government of India has not conducted any specific survey to assess the age and gender profile of farmers as such. However, according to the data released in the National Sample Survey (NSS) 59th round (January-December 2003) for the Situation Assessment Survey of Indian Farmers, age and sex-wise composition of farmers per thousand farmers is as under:

All-India Age-Sex wise Distribution of Farmers

Age group	No. per 1000 farmers		
	Male	Female	All
0-4	0	0	0
5-9	1	1	2
9-14	13	11	24
15-19	56	31	88
20-24	69	44	113
25-29	68	61	119
30-34	64	53	117
35-39	67	53	120
40-44	58	45	102
45-49	54	37	91
50-54	43	28	71
55-59	33	21	55
60 and above	70	28	98
All	598	402	1000

(c) & (d): No data on this aspect has been compiled in the Report.

(e) & (f) : Setting up of Farm Schools, as per the recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers, has been made an eligible activity in 2007-08 under the Scheme `Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms`, based on Agricultural Technology Management Agency (ATMA) model. Farm Schools can be set up by the outstanding farmers and the participants would normally be leaders of farmers` groups producing the same agricultural commodities.

(g) & (h): `Farmer awards` at block, district and state levels have been added in 2007-08 as an eligible activity under the scheme `Support to State Extension Programmes for Extension Reforms`. In addition, awards could also be given under this scheme to `farmers groups` and `best performing ATMA district`.